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PAGE 01 STATE 183004 012013Z
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KIGALI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 183004

FOR AMBASSADOR - KIGALI AND TO CHARGE - BUJUMBURA

E.O. 12356: DECL: 960801
TAGS: ASEC ECON MASS PHUM MCAP OTRA AMGT UN SA BY RW
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL INFORMAL

1. FOLLOWING IS THE JULY 31 RWANDA AND BURUNDI SITREP.
2. BEGIN TEXT.:

BURUNDI

(U) THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT VIOLENCE REPORTED OVER THE WEEKEND IN BURUNDI.

(C) A MILITARY CONTACT REPORTED TO THE EMBASSY THAT, ON CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 183004 012013Z

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L MILLS
DATE/CASE ID: 16 JUL 2007 200103014

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JULY 27, THE BURUNDI ARMY WON A BRIEF BATTLE WITH SEVERAL HUNDRED EX-FAR APPROXIMATELY 25 KM NORTH OF BUJUMBURA. THERE ARE NO OFFICIAL REPORTS OF THE INCIDENT.

(C) THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE SAID PRIVATELY THAT INSECURITY AND LACK OF INVESTMENT HAS LEAD TO SEVERE SETBACKS IN PRODUCTION OF COTTON, RICE AND COFFEE. A WORLD BANK SOURCE STATED THAT 40% OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BURUNDI'S REVENUES COMES FROM THE BEER TAX, AND THE REST MOSTLY FROM COFFEE SALES AND AID, SO A DROP IN COFFEE SALES COULD BE A PROBLEM FOR THE GOVERNMENT.

RWANDA

(C) THE DEPARTMENT ASKED GENEVA TO INFORM UNHCR THAT NEITHER PRM NOR DOD HAVE FUNDS FOR HELICOPTERS FOR UNHCR ACTIVITIES IN THE SUB-REGION.

(U) WENCESLAS MUNYESHYAKA, A PRIEST ACCUSED OF COLLABORATING WITH GENOCIDE IN RWANDA IN APRIL, 1994, WAS ARRESTED IN FRANCE.

(C) USUN AND THE RWANDAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UN AGREED TO CONSULT ON A DRAFT RESOLUTION ON LIFTING THE RWANDA ARMS EMBARGO BEFORE IT IS SUBMITTED TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL. THE GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTRY WAS REPORTED TO BE DIVIDED, WHILE THE ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY STATED INITIAL OPPOSITION TO THE LIFTING, WHILE LEAVING OPEN THE POSSIBILITY THAT THEY WOULD SUPPORT A CONSENSUS IF IT WERE TO EMERGE.

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PAGE 03 STATE 183004 012013Z

(U) ARCHBISHOP DESMOND TUTU PAID A ONE DAY VISIT TO RWANDA, PREACHING A MESSAGE OF RECONCILIATION. HE TERMED THE CENTRAL PRISON A "DISASTER WAITING TO HAPPEN," AND CALLED ON RWANDANS TO "BREAK THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE," IN A DEPARTURE SPEECH ON JULY 30.

RWANDA/BURUNDI

(U) STATE DEPARTMENT SPECIAL COORDINATOR RICHARD

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BOGOSIAN RETURNED TO THE OFFICE ON JULY 31.

END TEXT.

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